

**STATE OF ALASKA  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**2022**

**Source**  
HR 13

**House  
Resolve No.**  
13



Urging the United States Congress to pass the Alaska Salmon Research Task Force Act.

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**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:**

**WHEREAS** the state is home to five species of wild, sustainable Pacific salmon, King, Coho, Sockeye, Pink, and Keta; and

**WHEREAS** subsistence fishing for salmon has sustained Alaska Native people for thousands of years; and

**WHEREAS** recreational fishing for salmon is a lifelong pursuit for urban and rural residents of the state, and commercial salmon fishing has been a mainstay industry in the state for over a century; and

**WHEREAS** Alaska is the only state with a constitutional requirement that fishing be managed on the sustained yield principle; and

**WHEREAS** Alaska accounts for over 90 percent of the commercial catch in the United States, is the world's premier source of wild salmon, and accounts for 11 percent of the world's commercial harvest of salmon; and

**WHEREAS**, from 2018 to 2021, salmon fisheries in the state accounted for 75 percent of the fishery disaster declarations for the state; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2021, there were record low runs for many salmon species in western regions of the state, while there were record high runs for sockeye salmon in Bristol Bay; and

**WHEREAS** those low runs of salmon led to a ban on subsistence fishing for certain salmon species in rural communities and lower catch limits in other fisheries, which had significant negative effects on communities that rely on salmon for subsistence and for which fishing is a way of life; and

**WHEREAS** the state responsibly manages seafood using a world-class, science-based approach to help fish stocks, communities, and entire ecosystems thrive; and

**WHEREAS** sustainable seafood is the most environmentally efficient source of protein on the planet, and seafood harvested in the state is managed using environmentally responsible practices; and

**WHEREAS** approximately 95 percent of the state's food is imported, and sustainable seafood is not only crucial to the food security of residents of the state, but is also a deeply ingrained tradition; and

**WHEREAS** the Alaska Salmon Research Task Force that would be established by the Alaska Salmon Research Task Force Act would create working groups to focus on specific regions or fish stocks, including a working group focused specifically on salmon returns in the Arctic, Yukon, and Kuskokwim regions of the state; and

**WHEREAS** the Alaska Salmon Research Task Force Act seeks to ensure that, for Pacific salmon trends in the state, productivity and abundance are characterized, research needs are identified, and a coordinated salmon research strategy is established;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the House of Representatives respectfully urges the United States Congress to pass S. 3429, the Alaska Salmon Research Task Force Act, as introduced by Senator Dan Sullivan and Senator Lisa Murkowski.